



“Just Us”

**News & Notes from Sisters of St. Joseph
Justice & Peace Office
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March 24 Anniversary of Bishop Oscar Romero

15 August 1917 – 24 March 1980

Today we remember the 37th anniversary of the martyrdom of Bishop Oscar Romero, who spoke out for the people of El Salvador whose human rights were systematically violated. He was declared “Blessed” by Pope Francis on May 23, 2015, as a martyr.

Today we are bitterly reminded that the human rights of people here in the United States continue to be violated. Last night Immigration and Customs Enforcement picked up a Guatemalan woman and her children over concerns about car seats. They arrested the woman and her twelve year old and have transported them to Buffalo. The other children who are younger were sent home without their mother.

Being undocumented used to be a civil violation. Now it has escalated to a crime and the people who are being picked up are not criminals!

There is a rally at 5 pm today in front of the Federal Building at 100 State Street in Rochester. Please come if you can!

Thank you!

Phyllis Tierney, SSJ
SSJ Justice & Peace Office

ICE Ramps Up Targeted Enforcement Actions In Our Area

- ICE officers arrested five individuals in Albion, New York, March 21, following targeted enforcement actions. The five men have been charged with administrative immigration violations and will be held in ICE custody pending removal proceedings.

There was a licensed driver with legal documents driving the car which was stopped for no apparent reason by an unmarked car.

- No ticket was issued.
- No warrant for an arrest was presented.

On February 24, Jose Coyote Perez was arrested when he was asked to come to Batavia for what he believed was an ordinary report or fill out paperwork. He had been assaulted by another worker at the dairy farm where he was employed. He contacted local law enforcement. No arrests were made. According to Rebecca Fuentes, Worker Justice Center of Central NY, Jose had been administratively cleared in September and obtained a work permit and a Social Security Number. He was in the process of getting a driver’s license. When he arrived at the appointment he was detained. His hearing is set for the end of the month.

In 2014 Dolores Bustamente was stopped for a minor traffic violation and turned over to immigration authorities. Bustamente and other workers participated in a campaign that led to an executive memo that prohibits troopers from asking citizenship status during routine contacts. Dolores will have another court hearing in May.

<http://www.thebatavian.com/howard-b-owens/immigration-advocates-rally-in-batavia-prior-to-deportation-hearing-for-activist>

Human Trafficking: Yes Here Campaign, Rochester RRCAPT reported by Sisters vs. Human Trafficking: To read the full story by Caitlin Whyte on *WXXI NEWS*: [Click Here](#)

Latest News re. Refugee Resettlement from Jim Morris, Catholic Family Center, Rochester: (since 2nd Executive Order by President Trump was blocked)

- US Refugee Program under the Dept. of State is permitting refugees being booked for flight through April 28 (assuming available funding from Congress).
- Oversee refugee processing agencies will continue to process refugees including security checks and re-requests, medicals and assurance.
- The Dept. of State has a national admission goal of 900 refugees per week at least through April 28. This reflects that the government is no longer assuming that refugee admission in FY 2017 will be limited to 50,000.
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GREEN CORNER

Fasting from Food Waste.

A United Nations report tells us that “In the USA, 30-40% of the food supply is wasted, equaling more than 20 pounds of food per person per month.” Not only does wasting food deprive the world’s hungry of essential calories, the methane produced by its decomposition adds a potent greenhouse gas to the atmosphere. In addition, the water, fertilizer and energy used in producing, packaging and transporting the food has gone to waste.

What to do?

The U.N. encourages us to Think-Eat-Save.

Think about how food gets wasted in your home and plan ahead to eliminate waste. **Eat** consciously—bring home restaurant leftovers; freeze food before it goes bad; get creative with food you have before you buy more.

You can Find *Just Us* on the SSJ Website www.ssjrochester.org/ and links to Facebook!



Find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/SistersofSaintJosephofRochester](https://www.facebook.com/SistersofSaintJosephofRochester)
(CTRL & Click)

Brazil link: Copy & Paste:
<http://www.isjrochester.com.br>

Coming Events

7 pm, Wednesday, March 29, Honduras, Land of Beauty, Land of Pain, presentation by Sr. Phyllis Tierney at Church of the Assumption, 20 East Ave., Fairport, NY. Sr. Phyllis traveled with Interfaith Movement for Humanity (IM4humanintegrity.org) in December to learn the root causes of migration from the northern triangle countries. What she discovered was a government who refuses to protect the human rights of its people and the complicity of the US in providing funding despite human rights violations.

NAZARETH SPEAKER ON WATER

The William H. Shannon Chair in Catholic Studies presents two talks by Christiana Z. Peppard. Contemplation and Ecological Action: Tenderness and Justice in Laudato Si’, April 6, 7:00 pm. Forum, Otto Shults Community Center
Fresh Water Is a Human Right, April 7, 1:30 pm
Linehan Chapel, Golisano Academic Center

“The difference between clean water and dirty water is a living, material reality for many people world-wide The biggest distinction in today’s world might very well be between those people who know what toil it is to gather water, and those who have no idea.” Christine Peppard

Saturday, March 25 Earth Hour

8:30-9:30 pm Turn off your lights and chill out. Join communities around the world that turn off electricity for one hour!